

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

### **In the Claims:**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A climatic cabinet, comprising:

a plurality of walls defining a utilization space, one wall having at least one transfer opening with a respective door, ~~accommodating the transfer opening providing access to [[a]]~~  
the utilization space;

at least one specimen storage device, ~~accessible through the door and disposed within~~  
the utilization space, including a plurality of storage locations;

at least one inner transport device, disposed within the utilization space, to transport  
specimen slides to and from the specimen storage device; and ~~at least one transfer opening~~  
with the ~~at least one specimen storage device;~~ and

a buffer specimen storage device, disposed outside the utilization space, including a  
plurality of storage locations;

and an outer transport device, disposed outside the utilization space, ~~are arranged~~  
outside the transfer opening and that the outer transport device establishes to transport  
specimen slides to and from the buffer specimen storage device and to establish a transport  
connection ~~between the buffer specimen storage device and with~~ the transfer opening ~~by which~~  
such that a specimen slide can be moved is transported between the buffer specimen storage  
device, and the inner transport device, and the specimen storage device. ~~with the buffer~~  
specimen storage device comprising a plurality of specimen storage locations.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously presented) The buffer specimen storage device for use with a climatic cabinet in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the buffer specimen storage device is designed as a separate unit that can be detachably connected via a coupling device to the climatic cabinet.

4. (Previously presented) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, wherein the buffer specimen storage device comprises at least one specimen slide cassette.

5. (Previously presented) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 3, wherein the buffer specimen storage device comprises several specimen storage cassettes in a carousel arrangement.

6. (Previously presented) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, wherein the outer transport device comprises a vertically movable lift and a horizontally movable shifting unit.

7. (Previously presented) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, wherein the transfer location for a specimen is located between the outer and the inner transport device in the area of the transfer opening.

8. (Currently amended) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, ~~with including several a plurality of~~ transfer openings by which ~~correspondingly many a plurality of~~ specimen storage devices are loaded by ~~several a plurality of~~ inner transport devices, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the outer transport device has an operative connection to ~~all the~~ transfer openings.

9. (Previously presented) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, wherein the buffer specimen storage device and the outer transport device are arranged in a housing with a service opening.

10. (Currently amended) A buffer specimen storage device with an outer transport device and housing for use with a climatic cabinet according to Claim 9, wherein the ~~bugger~~ buffer specimen storage device is designed as a separate unit that can be detachably connected to the climatic cabinet via a coupling device.

11. (Previously presented) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, wherein a device is present for the pre-air-conditioning of the buffer specimen storage device and/or of the outer transport device.

12. (Previously presented) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, wherein the device for pre-air-conditioning is designed as a blower.

13. (Previously presented) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 1, wherein the device for pre-air-conditioning is controlled as a function of an actuation of the service opening.

14–20. (Canceled).

21. (New) A climatic cabinet, comprising:

a plurality of walls defining a utilization space, one wall having a closable transfer opening providing access to the utilization space;

a first means for storing specimen slides, disposed within the utilization space;

a first means for transporting specimen slides, disposed within the utilization space, to convey specimen slides between the first means for storing and the transfer opening;

a second means for storing specimen slides, disposed outside the walls; and

a second means for transporting specimen slides, disposed outside the walls, to convey specimen slides between the second means for storing and the transfer opening, the first and second means for transporting cooperating together to exchange specimen slides within the transfer opening.

22. (New) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 21, wherein the second means for storing is detachably connected to the wall having the transfer opening.

23. (New) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 21, wherein the second means for storing is a specimen slide carousel.

24. (New) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 21, wherein the second means for storing and the second means for transporting are disposed within a housing having a service opening.

25. (New) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 24, further including a means for temperature conditioning the specimen slides disposed within the housing.

26. (New) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 21, wherein the second means for transporting includes a vertically-movable lift and a horizontally-movable shifting unit.

27. (New) The climatic cabinet according to Claim 21, wherein the wall has a plurality of transfer openings through which the specimen slides are exchanged.